

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 03985 252153Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 COME-00 EB-08
LAB-04 SIL-01 AID-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00
INRE-00 AGRE-00 MCT-02 HA-05 /077 W
-----113619 252157Z /45

O R 252000Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7581
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 3985

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, ELAB, NU

SUBJECT: MLC LEADER SACASA CALLS ON AMBASSADOR

REFS: (A) MANAGUA 3957, (B) MANAGUA 3952

1. THIS MORNING LIBERAL CONSTITUTIONAL PARTY LEADER
RAMIRO SACASA CALLED ON AMBASSADOR TO INFORM HIM OF CURRENT
DEVELOPMENTS. SACASA REITERATED HIS EARLIER REMARKS ABOUT THE
INDEFINITE GENERAL STRIKE (MANAGUA 3957) AND SAID THAT ALTHOUGH
IT MAY BE EFFECTIVE IN THE OUTLYING CITPES, HE DOUBTED WHETHER
THE STRIKE WOULD BE VERY EFFECTIVE IN MANAGUA, UNLESS WORKERS
DECIDE TO STAY HOME.

2. SACASA SAID THA THE STRIKE WAS SOLD TO THE FAO BY MDN LEADER
ROBELO, WHO SAID THAT AN MDN MANAGUA POLL OF 500 BUSINESSMEN
(MOSTLY MEDIUM TO SMALL) SHOWED 90 PERCENT IN FAVOR OF STRIKE.
SACASA SAID THAT THE TOP FINANCIAL LEADERS, SUCH AS NBNTEALEGRE
(BANIC GROUP) AND PELLAS (BANCO DE AMERICA GROUP) DEFINITELY WOULD
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NOT PARTICIPATE.

3. SACASA SAID HE WAS SURPRISED ABOUT REPORTS THAT GON HAD REFUSED
HIM A PASSPORT TO VISIT MIAMI. HE HAD DELAYED HIS TRIP IN ANY
CASE BECAUSE HE DID NOT WANT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY DURING THE SAN-
DINISTA ATTACK SITUATION. THE PROBLEM, HE SAID, IS THAT GON PASS-
PORT AUTHORITIES ALWAYS APPLY PASSPORT REGULATIONS MORE STRINGENTLY

TO ANTI-SOMOCISTAS THAN TO SOMOZA'S FRIENDS. THE DELAY IS
PRIMARILY BECAUSE HE WAS ASKED TO COME BACK WITH FURTHER FINANCIAL
DOCUMENTATION.

4. WITH RESPECT TO POLITICAL LEADERS BEING DETAINED, SACASA SAID
THAT HE DID NOT CONSIDER THIS SERIOUS YET. BOTH SANTIAGO RIVAS
HASLAM, UDEL LEADER IN MATAGALPA, AND CESAR DELGADILLO MACHADO,
SECRETARY OF THE SOCIALIST CHRISTIAN PART (PSC) WERE SIMPLY CALLED
IN FOR QUESTIONING ABOUT UDEL AND FAO STRIKE ACTIVITIES AND RELEASED
SAME DAY. UDEL LEADER CORDOVAS RIVAS MAY BE "TAKING PRECAUTIONS"
BUT CORDOVA RIVAS HAS BEEN MOVING FREELY ABOUT MANAGUA AND HE
IS EXPECTED TO ATTEND TODAY A USDEL/FAO CONFERENCE FOR THE FOREIGN
PRESS AT TELEVISION CHANNEL 2 OFFICES. SACASA HAS NOT SEEN MDN
LEADER ROBELO RECENTLY, BUT BELIEVES HE IS THE ONLY LEADER
BEING SOUGHT BY THE GON. SACASA LEFT TO ATTEND THE FOREIGN NEWS
MEDIA CONFERENCE, AND PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED.
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